

Estimation of Coho Salmon Escapement in Streams Adjacent to Perryville and Sockeye Salmon Escapement in Chignik Lake Tributaries, Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge, 2006

Abstract : Runs of coho salmon *Oncorhynchus kisutch* in the Kametolook, Three Star, and Long Beach rivers near Perryville have declined, and residents can no longer meet their subsistence needs in those rivers. Local residents are now taking coho salmon from streams outside the immediate vicinity of Perryville. With fishing effort spread out to other streams, we need to ensure escapement is maintained to meet the subsistence needs of the Native Village of Perryville. In order to prevent over harvest of these small stocks, escapement in those other streams needs to be monitored. Monitoring of sockeye salmon escapement in Clark River, a tributary to Chignik Lake, is also necessary to ensure escapement is maintained to meet subsistence needs for residents of the Chignik villages. In 2006, two aerial surveys were conducted to count adult coho salmon in streams near Perryville and sockeye salmon in Clark River using low-level helicopter flights. Overall numbers of coho salmon counted in 2006 and run timing were similar to previous years, and most coho salmon were counted during the survey in mid October. More sockeye salmon were counted in Clark River in 2006 than in previous years. Local water conditions prevented us from obtaining counts in some streams.

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